

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY DENTAL ACTIVITY
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613-7040

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF
DSBJ-CDR (100)

19 October 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DENTAC PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Dental Activity (DENTAC) Policy Memorandum #99-07 - Policy on Demonstrations, Examinations, and Evaluations of Medical/Dental Equipment

1. Equipment brought into medical treatment facilities must comply with Fort Huachuca regulation ASR 70-1 and AR 40-61, chapter 2, para 2-9.
2. Both above stated regulations assign such equipment into one of three categories:

a. EQUIPMENT PRESENTATIONS, DEMONSTRATIONS, OR BRIEFINGS are defined as: Exhibit, use or application of an item by the vendor. Demonstrations do not involve action by Army personnel beyond observing the operations or use of the product by the vendor. The vendor is required to remain with the equipment during a demonstration. Demonstrations are conducted on a 1-day basis. Demonstrations shall not involve patients. Requests for demonstrations must be submitted in writing by the vendor to the Hospital Industrial Coordinator, who will initiate the necessary paperwork. Demonstrations require approval of the MEDDAC/DENTAC commander. The approximately turn-around time to complete the necessary paperwork for equipment demonstrations is 1 week.

b. EQUIPMENT EXAMINATIONS are defined as: The loan of equipment to an activity. The primary purpose of an equipment examination is to determine whether a piece of equipment or similar item should be requested for purchase and use by an activity. The equipment vendor agrees to loan the equipment to the facility at no charge or liability to the Government for a period not to exceed 30 days. Equipment examinations may include use of the equipment on patients by Army physicians; however, prior approval by the MEDDAC/DENTAC commander must be obtained prior to such use. Requests for equipment examinations must be submitted by the requesting physician to the Hospital Industrial Liaison Coordinator who will first contact the U.S. Army Medical Department Board (USAMEDDBD) to determine if such equipment has previously been evaluated. If USAMEDDBD has evaluated similar equipment, a copy of the evaluation shall be requested. If the equipment has not been previously examined or evaluated, the hospital ILC will initiate the necessary paperwork and obtain the

required signatures. The requesting physician must provide a written request with the following information:

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(1) A listing of known manufacturers of the type equipment to be examined.

(2) A statement of why the equipment is to be examined.

(3) A description of what type of procedures the equipment will be used for.

(4) An explanation of what is intended to be derived or achieved from the testing effort.

The approximate turn-around time to complete the necessary paperwork for equipment examinations will vary from 4 to 8 weeks.

c. EQUIPMENT EVALUATIONS are defined as: Formal investigations of material which may have an AMEDD-wide potential to improve health care or efficiency. They require evaluation protocols, milestone schedules, and progress reports. Evaluations should not be undertaken to support sole source purchases. Comparative evaluations of competitive equipment can be required to assure objectivity and evaluation of the best available material. Evaluations will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Demonstrations and examinations will be considered prior to requesting an evaluation. Appendix B of AR 40-61 gives formal guidance for commanders to submit evaluation requests through command channels to the USAMEDDBD.

3. Point of contact concerning the above subject is the Hospital Industrial Liaison Coordination, 533-3712.

//Original Signed By//

HARLAND G. LEWIS, JR.
Colonel, Dental Corps
Commanding

